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Appl. No. : 10/064,571

Title : Megasonic Cleaning Apparatus and Method of Using Same

Applicant : B. Gene Cawlfield

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Commissioner of Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

Amendment

Sir:

In response to the office action dated December 15, 2004, please amend this application as shown in the following listing of claims.

In the specification, replace paragraphs 0026, 0027, and 0028 with the following paragraphs, as amended:

[0026] ~~FIG. 7 is a schematic detail of the preferred apparatus for connecting positive pressure or vacuum to a gas-tight vessel partially cross-sectional schematic view of an alternative apparatus.~~

[0027] ~~FIG. 8 is a schematic view of preferred liquid levels in the process tank while carrying out a method of the invention detail of the preferred apparatus for connecting positive pressure or vacuum to a gas-tight vessel.~~

[0028] FIG. 9 is a partially cross-sectional schematic view of an alternative apparatus schematic view of preferred liquid levels in the process tank while carrying out a method of the invention.

In the specification, replace paragraph [0040] with the following paragraph:

[0040] An alternative apparatus is disclosed in FIG. 7 for connecting the process tank 12 and the home container 72 when only a single process liquid is used. In this embodiment, a vertical riser 98 connects to the bottom of the process tank 12, replacing the butterfly valve 80 and downcomer 76 of FIG. 5. A pressure connection 74 on the home container 72 allows the use of varying positive pressure to drive process fluid into and out of the process tank 12 from the home container 72. As an alternative, the process tank 12 can be sealed and provided with a pressure connection 62 as shown in FIGS. 5 and 6, and vacuum and venting can be used in combination with positive pressure to move the process liquid back and forth, as previously described. The riser 98 is preferably located near one side wall 100 of the home container 72, with the opposite side wall 102 tapered toward the riser 98, so that the bottom 104 of the home container 72 is only slightly wider than the riser 98. This configuration is use used to minimize liquid inventory remaining in the home container 72 after filling the process tank 12 and providing additional liquid for overflow and recirculation. The opposite side wall 102 can be vertical if desired.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 11.